Hey, Grade 12-ers, Here's Good News!

VANCOUVER (CP)—British Columbia teachers had a kindly thought for their Grade 12 students in the final business session yesterday of their annual meeting here.

B.C. Teachers' Federation delegates voted to ask the government to reduce poetry memory work for seniors.

Works they suggested dropping were: Browning's "Prospice"; Rupert Brooke's "The Dead"; "A Canadian Boat Song"; Bliss Carman's "Vestigia" and Bryant's "To a Waterfowl."

MRS. ELIZABETH DUNCAN

Mrs. Duncan Sentenced

Gas Chamber

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — Doting mother Elizabeth Duncan was sentenced Friday to die for the hired murder of her son's wife.

Her lined face showed not a flicker of emotion as she heard the words condemning her to the San Quentin Prison gas chamber.

Standing beside her was her attorney son, Frank. Witnesses at her trial said her jealous love for him drove her to arrange the murder of the woman who had taken him away, Olga Kupczyk Duncan, 30-year-old Canadian nurse.

Before sentencing 54-year-old Mrs. Duncan, Superior Judge Charles Blackstock rejected defence pleas for a new trial and for reduction of the penalty to life imprisonment.

Defence attorney S. Ward Sullivan contended Mrs. Duncan was entitled to a new trial because she was tried in "an atmosphere of bias and prejudice." He said the trial should have been held in another county.

Judge Blackstock, noting that the case was "exceptionally notorious," told Sullivan:

"You'd be jumping from the frying pan into the fire no matter where you went."

Typhoid Danger Voiced In North Vancouver

NORTH VANCOUVER (CP)—Residents of the Keith-Lynn area were warned yesterday to stay away from open ditches because of the danger of typhoid fever.

The warning was issued after a three-year-old girl contracted the disease three weeks ago. She has recovered and will be discharged after further treatment in hospital.

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Teachers' Convention Told

Return Sex Course To High Schools

VANCOUVER (CP) — The British Columbia Parent-Teacher Federation convention has been told that sex education should be returned to high schools.

Mrs. W. V. McDonald, the federation's immediate past-president, told the 600 delegates at Burnaby that "PTAs must work for public support of such a program."

"Students are taught of other parts of the human body system, why not also about the anatomy and physiology of the reproductive system?" she asked.

Mrs. McDonald's statements were in answer to a 45-minute address given earlier by Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

Mr. Peterson told the convention that one of the chief reasons sex education classes aren't given is because of the difficulty in obtaining teachers "with experience, tact, and will to teach it."

Meanwhile, at the B.C. Teachers' Federation convention, delegates voted to support any practical plan for teacher exchange between Canada and Russia.

The motion, proposed by the Canadian Teachers' Federation president Gene Morison, was passed unanimously by the B.C. educators as the four-day convention ended.

★ ★ ★

MRS. W. V. McDONALD
. . . answer to Peterson

New Decline

It Costs Less To Live

OTTAWA (CP) — Living costs declined during February for the fourth consecutive month, reducing the consumer price index by one-fifth of a point to 125.5 on March 1 from 125.7 on Feb. 1.

The February decline was caused mainly by lower food prices, including beef, pork, coffee, sugar, fats and fresh tomatoes. These offest a number of other increases, the bureau of statistics reported yesterday.

The index of average industrial wages and salaries at Feb. 1—latest date for which figures are available — was 168.3, based on 1949 equalling 100. This was up from 160.4 on Jan. 1 and 161.2 on Feb. 1, 1958.

MORE CIGARETS

About £804,000,000 was spent on cigarets in Britain in 1957, compared with £695,000,000 in 1951.

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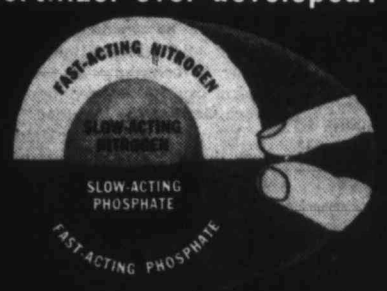

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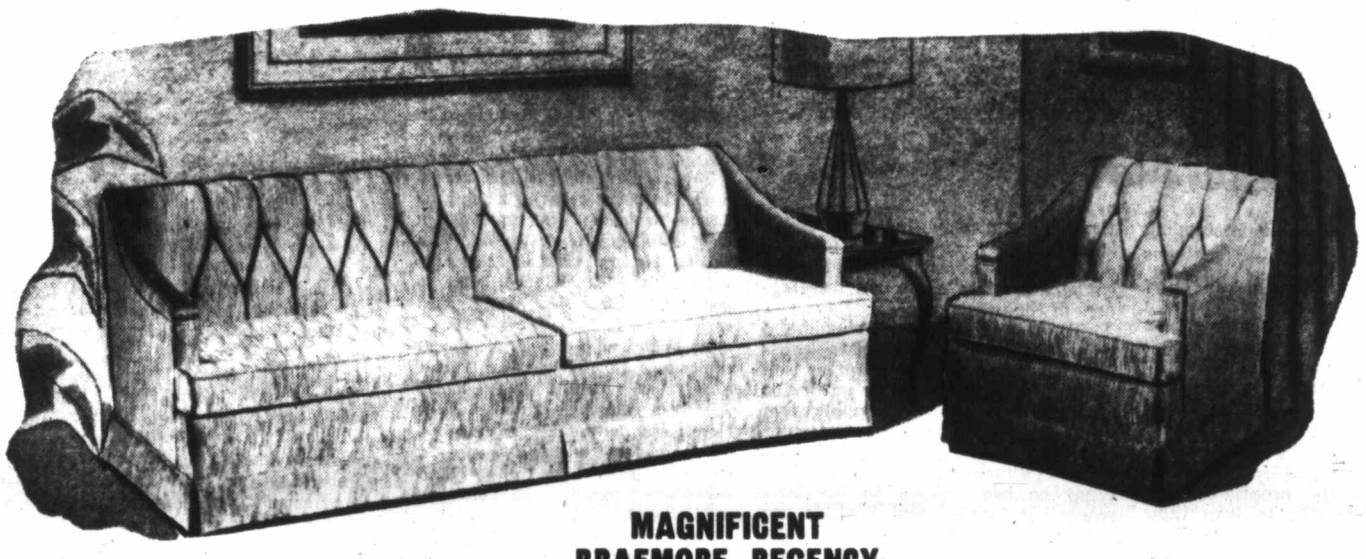

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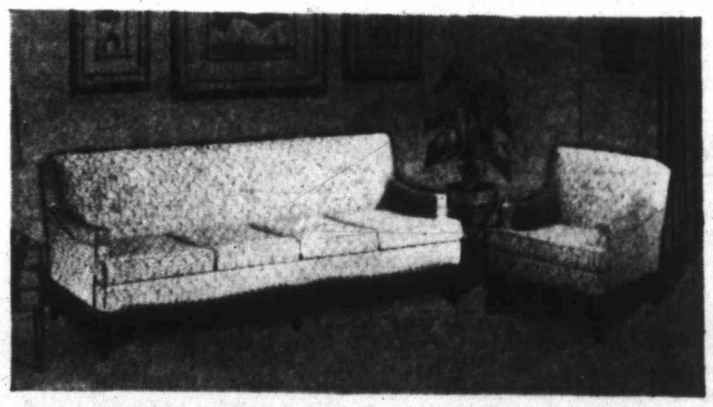

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